PRICED CATALOGUE

OF THE

PRIVATE COLLECTION

OF

UNITED STATES CENTS,

THE PROPERTY OF

EDWARD COGAN,

SOLD AT HIS STORE BY PRIVATE BIDDINGS,

The 1st November 1858.



Price 25 Cents.

PUBLISHED BY

EDWARD COGAN,

Dealer in Coins, Medals, &c., Books, Prints, Postage Stamps, Union Envelopes, &c. 48 NORTH TENTH STREET, PHILAD'A, PA.



PHILAD'A, 48 North Tenth St. 5th Sept. 1863.

DEAR SIR:

Having been repeatedly solicited by several of my Numismatic friends to print a priced Catalogue of the sale of my private collection of United States Cents, which took place on the 1st November 1858, and finding the desire to collect Catalogues of Coin Sales considerably on the increase, I have determined to yield to their request.

I will briefly relate the circumstances connected with this sale.

A friend had commissioned me to make a collection for him of every cent from the year 1793. I commenced doing so, and had succeeded in obtaining some few unusually fine specimens—when nearing the completion of the collection, he very generously said, that if I could make any thing beyond what it would cost him, I should sell it on my own account, and insisted that I should do so. At this time there were comparatively very few persons who paid any attention to collecting Coins, but those who did were very anxious to obtain certain pieces out of this set. As, however, I determined not to sell any single piece out of it, one of my friends wrote me a letter, offering such prices for some of the pieces, as at that time were considered extravagantly high, and suggested that every Collector should be allowed to send in bids by letter for such pieces as he required, and the highest bidder to be declared the buyer. This arrangement was entered into, and as the letters were received, they were numbered from one to nineteen, this being the total number of applicants.

On the first of November, 1858, the day named for the opening of the letters, some six or seven of the Collectors who were interested in the result, and all having been invited, attended in my private room, and in their presence the letters were opened exactly in the order in which they had been received, and the prices put against such pieces as the writer wished to obtain, showing in this manner each bidding for every single piece throughout the whole collection, for which there had been any offer. Three pieces for which there was no written offer, were disposed of after all the letters had been opened. These pieces were the 1830, 1833, copper, and the 1857 nickel cents.

The numbers represent the buyers, and the names are omitted, because at the time of sale, several objected to having them published, and it would be useless now to attempt to gain their consent. In regard to the condition of the pieces, I cannot at this lapse of time, say more, than that some of them were remarkably fine specimens, and in the main, were much better than at that time were ordinarily met with.

Up to the time of the publication of this Sale in our Philadelphia papers, I had but a very limited correspondence outside of this State, but within a few days after this appeared, I had scarcely time to answer the numerous enquiries respecting the prices of coins, or to execute the orders that I received daily from all parts of the Northern States. Believing, therefore, that the published result of this sale has been the chief cause of the unprecedented demand that has arisen for obtaining coins, I have thought the publication of this catalogue would possess a peculiar interest with the collectors, and trust that I shall not be disappointed in my expectations.

Yours faithfully,

EDWARD COGAN.

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